Approaching international community on Fiji

550. DR. M.N. DAS:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the efforts made by Indian Government to secure release of the hostages in Fiji;

(b) whether Government have approached international community for their help in restoration of democracy in Fiji; and

(c) if so, the details of the response received from various countries and organizations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) The Government of India worked in close cooperation with the Commonwealth and countries like Australia, New Zealand, U.K. and others to secure the release of hostages and they were since released.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Commonwealth has suspended Fiji from its Councils. Australia and New Zealand have imposed several sanctions against Fiji. Several countries have called for the restoration of 1997 Constitution of Fiji.

Government's reaction on trade relations between US and China

551. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:
SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the controversial trade bill establishing normal trade relations between the US and China, which is awaiting endorsement of US Senate is now under threat;

(b) whether this is due to China's countinuing support to Pakistan to assist them to build long range missiles with nuclear war heads; and